THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Details of the vacant posts in the Department of Atomic Energy are as follows:

| 1984-85 | 1985-86 | 1986-87 | 1987-88 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 377 | 315 | 381 | 435 |

(b) In compliance with the various instructions on economy in expenditure issued by the Government of India and the Administrative policy decision taken in the department, vacancies are filled up only after critical evaluation of the work requirements and other relevant factors. Due to non-availability of SC|ST candidates some of the Administrative and auxiliary posts could not be filled up until empanelling of adequate number of SC|ST candidates by special efforts.

(c) After critical evaluation of the work requirements the required number of posts are expected to be filled up within 3 months.

(d) Departmental examinations are conducted for filling up of the vacant posts required to be filled up by promotees and by special effort, adequate number of SC|ST candidates are empanelled for filling up of the reserved posts required to be filled up by direct recruitment.

**Talks between Indian Prime Minister and US Defence Secretary**

1082. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of talks between US Defence Secretary Mr. Frank Carlucci and Prime Minister during the former's recent visit to Delhi;

(b) whether Government see any indication of any shift in the US policy towards India vis-a-vis Pakistan; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to the Pantagon notifying the US Congress that it is selling Pakistan 11 more F-16 Fighters for 256 million Dollars and 200 Sparrow and 360 side winder air to air missile for a total of 87 million Dollars and whether Government have taken it up with the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Defence Secretary Carlucci's call on the Prime Minister during his recent visit to India was part of the continuing dialogue between the two countries on regional and international issues.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have conveyed India's concern at the continuing supply of sophisticated armaments to Pakistan beyond that country's legitimate defence requirements.

**Direct talks between LTTE leaders** president of sri lanka

1083. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Sri Lankan President's direct talks with LTTE leaders by passing the Government of India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the course of action proposed to be taken or already taken in this regard?